

Queensland



ASSISTED STUDENTS (ENFORCEMENT OF OBLIGATIONS) ACT 1951

**Reprinted as in force on 7 July 2000
(includes amendments up to Act No. 20 of 2000)**

Reprint No. 2

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the Office of the Queensland Parliamentary Counsel
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Information about this reprint

This Act is reprinted as at 7 July 2000. The reprint shows the law as amended by all amendments that commenced on or before that day (Reprints Act 1992 s 5(c)).

The reprint includes a reference to the law by which each amendment was made—see list of legislation and list of annotations in endnotes.

This page is specific to this reprint. See previous reprint for information about earlier changes made under the Reprints Act 1992. A table of earlier reprints is included in the endnotes.

Also see endnotes for information about—

- **when provisions commenced**
- **editorial changes made in earlier reprints.**



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ASSISTED STUDENTS (ENFORCEMENT OF OBLIGATIONS) ACT 1951

[as amended by all amendments that commenced on or before 7 July 2000]

**An Act relating to the performance by students of the conditions upon
which they accept assistance from the Crown in order to enable
them to pursue their studies**

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the *Assisted Students (Enforcement of Obligations) Act 1951*.

Meaning of terms

2. In this Act—

“assistance”, in relation to an assisted student, includes, but without limit to the generality of the meaning of that term—

- (a) a scholarship, fellowship, bursary, or exhibition;
- (b) the payment of money, fares, or allowances, whether payable in respect of the assisted student or of any 1 or more of the student’s dependants, or of that student and any of the student’s dependants;
- (c) leave from employment and either with or without the payment in whole or in part of salary or other remuneration.

“assisted student” means a person who accepts, or agrees to accept, from the Crown, assistance in order to enable the person to pursue the person’s studies.

“chief executive” means—

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- (a) in relation to the Queensland Railways—the chief executive of Queensland;
- (b) in relation to a department—the chief executive thereof under the *Public Service Management and Employment Act 1988*.¹

“Crown” includes, but without limit to the generality of the meaning of that term, any department or sub-department of the Government of this State and any Crown corporation or instrumentality or corporation or instrumentality representing the Crown in right of this State.

“service as an employee”, in relation to an assisted student, includes, but without limit to the generality of the meaning of the term, service as an employee as stipulated in the contract.

“studies”, in relation to an assisted student includes, but without limit to the generality of the meaning of that term, a course or part of a course, or an extended or part of an extended course, of study at a university, college, school, or other educational institution or at any other place whatsoever where any studies may be undertaken or completed and whether in or outside Australia.

Contract relating to assistance

3.(1) Where assistance proposed to be given to a person is to be subject to terms and conditions binding upon that person, those terms and conditions shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, be set out in a document called in this Act **“the contract”**.

(1A) However, it shall not be necessary to set out in the contract any of the provisions of this Act.

(2) The parties to the contract shall be the chief executive concerned, on behalf of the Crown, and the assisted student.

(2A) The contract may be signed for the chief executive by the chief executive’s agent authorised in writing, either generally or in a particular case.

¹ Now see *Public Service Act 1996*, s 138

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(3) A person who agrees to accept assistance offered by the Crown shall execute the contract and thereupon shall be bound by each and every term and condition expressed by the contract to be binding upon the person including, if expressed in the contract, a condition requiring the person to perform service as an employee.

(4) However, an assisted student who was a minor when the student executed the contract shall not be so bound unless the student's parent or guardian or if the student has no parent or guardian a Stipendiary Magistrate shall have endorsed on the contract his or her consent to the execution thereof by that minor.

Damages for failure to perform service as employee

4.(1) Where an assisted student binds himself or herself by the contract to perform service as an employee the contract may stipulate the sum payable to the Crown as damages for a breach of that condition.

(2) The sum so stipulated shall not be held to be unreasonable or extravagant but shall be deemed to be by way of liquidated damages and the parties to the contract shall be deemed to have intended accordingly.

Remedies of the Crown for breach by student of the contract

5.(1) If the assisted student is guilty of a breach of any term or condition of the contract binding upon the student (other than a condition requiring the student to perform service as an employee), then, notwithstanding any other Act or law or rule or practice of law, that student shall be liable to pay to the Crown a sum equal to the aggregate of all sums expended by the Crown in or towards the assistance of that student, unless that breach has arisen from circumstances beyond the student's own control proof whereof shall lie upon the student.

(2) If the assisted student fails, neglects, or refuses to perform the whole or any part of the service as an employee to which the student has bound himself or herself by the contract then, notwithstanding any other Act or law, or rule or practice of law, that student shall be liable to pay to the Crown the sum stipulated in the contract to be payable to the Crown as damages for a breach by that student of the condition binding the student to

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serve as an employee together with a further sum equal to the aggregate of all sums expended by the Crown in or towards the assistance of that student less an amount bearing the same proportion to the total of the aforesaid sums as the performed part of the service to which the student bound himself or herself by the contract bears to the whole of that service.

(2A) However, notwithstanding that a contract does not stipulate any sum to be payable to the Crown as damages for the breach hereinbefore specified in subsection (2), the student concerned shall nevertheless be liable in respect of that breach to make to the Crown the payment other than damages hereinbefore set out in subsection (2).

(2B) Also, if—

- (a) an amount or part of an amount payable under subsection (1) or (2) (a “**relevant amount**”) is for a supply for which GST is payable; and
- (b) the relevant amount does not include the appropriate amount for GST in relation to the supply;

the amount payable under the subsection is increased by an amount equal to the appropriate amount for GST in relation to the supply less any amount included in the relevant amount for GST in relation to the supply.

(3) Any amount of moneys payable to the Crown under subsections (1) to (2A) shall be recoverable and may be recovered as a debt due to Her Majesty either by the Crown pursuant to the provisions of the *Crown Proceedings Act 1980* or by the chief executive in the chief executive’s official name pursuant to the provisions of this Act by action in any court of competent jurisdiction against the assisted student made liable by this section for the payment of those moneys.

(4) In and for the purposes of any proceeding to recover any moneys recoverable by the Crown under this section—

- (a) the assisted student shall be deemed to have always been legally competent to enter into the contract and to bind himself or herself to perform all of the conditions thereof expressed thereby to be binding upon the student notwithstanding that the student was under the age of 18 years when he or she did so;

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- (b) if the proceeding has arisen out of the failure, neglect, or refusal of the student to perform the condition of service as an employee binding upon the student under the contract—evidence shall not be led or admitted proving or tending to prove that the sum expressed by the contract to be payable to the Crown in respect of that breach is a penalty or penal damages, or unreasonable or extravagant, or not intended to be by way of liquidated damages, or that the actual damage suffered by the Crown by the failure, neglect, or refusal as aforesaid of the assisted student was less than that sum or any proportionate amount thereof payable by the student concerned.

Condition binding assisted student to perform service as employee not to be void for uncertainty

6. Provisions of the contract which provide that the assisted student shall or, if required, will serve as an employee shall constitute a condition thereof binding upon that student notwithstanding that all or any of the following are not ascertainable from those provisions, but are thereby expressed or implied to be left to be ascertained or determined either at some future time, or by a person or authority who is not a party to the contract, or both at some future time and by a person or authority as aforesaid, namely—

- (a) the capacity in which that assisted student is to so serve;
- (b) the date of commencement of that service, or the period thereof, or the conditions of service, or all or any of them;
- (c) the place or places of service;
- (d) any other matter or thing which if those provisions purported to be a contract of service by an employee with an employer would make that contract void in law for uncertainty.

Bond with respect to condition of service entered into by student before this Act passed

7.(1) Where, before the passing of this Act, the Crown agreed to give assistance to a student in order to enable the student to pursue the student's studies and the giving of that assistance was subject to a condition relating to

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the performance by that student of service and that student accepted that assistance and entered into a bond then, if at any time on or after the passing of this Act, that student shall fail, neglect, or refuse to perform service for the stipulated term or any part thereof in accordance with the conditions relating to that service set out in that bond and purporting to be binding upon the student, that student shall, notwithstanding any other Act or law, or rule or practice of law, be liable to pay the sum in which the aforesaid bond is conditioned to Her Majesty or, if the aforesaid bond provides for the payment of that sum to a Minister, to that Minister.

(2) Any amount of that sum which has not been paid to Her Majesty or, if the aforesaid bond provides for the payment of that sum to a Minister, to that Minister at the expiration of 1 month after the date of the failure, negligence, or refusal as aforesaid of the student may be recovered as a debt due to Her Majesty by action in any court of competent jurisdiction.

(3) In and for the purposes of any proceeding to recover that sum or any amount thereof—

- (a) the student shall be deemed to have always been legally competent to enter into the bond notwithstanding that the student was under the age of 18 years when the student did so; and
- (b) that sum shall be a genuine pre-estimate of the damage suffered and recoverable by the Crown or, if payable under the bond to a Minister, by that Minister in respect of the failure, negligence, or refusal of the student proved in that proceeding; and
- (c) it shall not be competent for the defence to plead that the student was incompetent in law to enter into the bond, that the aforesaid damage was less than that sum, that that sum or any amount thereof is a penalty or penal damages, that the bond being a deed which did not take effect as from delivery by the student is not binding on the student, that any covenant in the bond by which the student purported to bind himself or herself is not legally binding upon the student, or any 1 or more of those matters; and
- (d) evidence proving or tending to prove any of the matters set out in paragraph (c) shall not be led or admitted.

Effect of dismissal from service

8. Where the service as an employee of an assisted student or the service of a student to whom section 7 applies is terminated before the expiration of the period of that service stipulated in the contract (or in the case of a student to whom section 7 applies, in the bond entered into by the student) for a contravention of or failure to comply with any Act which is binding upon the student in respect of that service, or with any regulation, rule, or by-law made thereunder, then the student shall be deemed to have failed to perform that service and this Act shall thereupon apply as if the student had terminated that service of the student's own motion and without the consent of the appropriate person or authority.

Attachment of debts etc. due to assisted student to satisfy judgment

9.(1) Where, pursuant to the foregoing provisions of this Act, a judgment of any court for the payment of money by an assisted student shall have been obtained, the chief executive may, notwithstanding anything contained in any other Act or law or rule or practice of law, serve upon any third person a copy of that judgment together with a notice in writing specified in subsection (2).

(2) The aforementioned notice shall set out the amount due under the judgment and shall require the person to whom it is directed to pay to the chief executive so much as is specified in the notice of all or any debts or moneys then due or that may thereafter become due or accrue from that third person to the assisted student in question.

(2A) The amount specified in the notice may be increased by an amount equal to the appropriate amount for any GST payable in relation to reassignment of debt or money due or accruing from the third person to the assisted student.

(3) Any third person as aforesaid shall at any time and from time to time when any debt or money is or becomes due or payable by the person to the assisted student in question, pay forthwith to the chief executive so much of that debt or money as is specified in the notice served under this section and, until duly paid, any and every amount so payable shall be a debt due to Her Majesty from the third person in question and be recoverable either by the Crown pursuant to the provisions of the *Crown Proceedings Act 1980* or by

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the chief executive in the chief executive's official name pursuant to the provisions of this Act.

(3A) However—

- (a) the third person shall be deemed to have complied in full with the notice when the person shall have made payments aggregating the amount specified in the notice or when the judgment is satisfied in another way, whichever event first happens; and
- (b) the notice shall not be effective so as to require the third person to pay to the Crown any amount of wages within the meaning of the *Wages Attachment Act 1936*² which is exempted by that Act from being attached or charged by order of a court.

(4) Any person making any payment in pursuance of this section shall be deemed to have been acting under the authority of the person who failed to comply with the judgment to which the notice requiring him or her to make such payment relates and of all other persons concerned, and is hereby indemnified in respect of such payment.

(5) This section shall apply so as not to prejudice any other mode of executing a judgment as referred to in this section.

Exemption from stamp duty

10. No contract, document or instrument executed for the purposes of this Act shall be liable to stamp duty, any enactment to the contrary notwithstanding.

Legal proceedings

11.(1) For the purposes of this Act—

- (a) the chief executive shall have and may exercise all the powers, privileges, rights, and remedies of the Crown;
- (b) all legal proceedings may be brought by or against the chief executive in the chief executive's official name.

² This Act has been repealed by 1995 No. 58 s 5(1) sch 7.

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(2) In any proceedings under this Act a certificate by the chief executive that the provisions of this Act have been complied with shall be sufficient proof of that compliance until the contrary is proved.

(3) The appointment of the chief executive and the chief executive's signature shall be judicially noticed.

Construction of Act

13. This Act shall apply so as not to limit the power and authority of the Crown to give assistance to students, it being hereby declared that nothing herein shall prohibit or be deemed to prohibit the Crown from giving assistance to students who are not required to execute the contract provided for by this Act.

Construction of contracts

14. A reference to the Public Service Board in a document that is the contract for the purposes of this Act shall be read as a reference to the chief executive of the department in which the assisted student is or is to be employed.

ENDNOTES

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2 **Date to which amendments incorporated**

This is the reprint date mentioned in the Reprints Act 1992, section 5(c). Accordingly, this reprint includes all amendments that commenced operation on or before 7 July 2000. Future amendments of the Assisted Students (Enforcement of Obligations) Act 1951 may be made in accordance with this reprint under the Reprints Act 1992, section 49.

3 Key

Key to abbreviations in list of legislation and annotations

AIA	=	Acts Interpretation Act 1954	(prev)	=	previously
amd	=	amended	proc	=	proclamation
amdt	=	amendment	prov	=	provision
ch	=	chapter	pt	=	part
def	=	definition	pubd	=	published
div	=	division	R[X]	=	Reprint No.[X]
exp	=	expires/expired	RA	=	Reprints Act 1992
gaz	=	gazette	reloc	=	relocated
hdg	=	heading	renum	=	renumbered
ins	=	inserted	rep	=	repealed
lap	=	lapsed	s	=	section
notfd	=	notified	sch	=	schedule
o in c	=	order in council	sdiv	=	subdivision
om	=	omitted	SIA	=	Statutory Instruments Act 1992
orig	=	original	SIR	=	Statutory Instruments Regulation 1992
p	=	page	SL	=	subordinate legislation
para	=	paragraph	sub	=	substituted
prec	=	preceding	unnum	=	unnumbered
pres	=	present			
prev	=	previous			

4 Table of earlier reprints

TABLE OF EARLIER REPRINTS

[If a reprint number includes a roman letter, the reprint was released in unauthorised, electronic form only.]

Reprint No.	Amendments included	Reprint date
1	to Act No. 52 of 1988	15 March 1995

5 Tables in earlier reprints

TABLES IN EARLIER REPRINTS

Name of table	Reprint No.
Changed names and titles	1
Obsolete and redundant provisions	1
Renumbered provisions	1

6 List of legislation

Assisted Students (Enforcement of Obligations) Act 1951 15 Geo. VI No. 47

date of assent 30 November 1951

commenced on date of assent

as amended by—

Age of Majority Act 1974 No. 57 s 8 sch

date of assent 27 September 1974

commenced 1 March 1975 (proc pubd Gaz 16 November 1974 p 1083)

Public Service Management and Employment Act 1988 No. 52 s 44 sch 3 (as amd 1989 No. 103 s 3 sch)

date of assent 12 May 1988

commenced 18 July 1988 (proc pubd Gaz 16 July 1988 p 2876)

GST and Related Matters Act 2000 No. 20 ss 1, 2(4), 29 sch 3

date of assent 23 June 2000

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

remaining provisions commenced 1 July 2000 (see s 2(4))

7 List of annotations

Meaning of terms

- s 2** def “**chief executive**” ins 1988 No. 52 s 44 sch 3
 def “**Public Service Board**” om 1988 No. 52 s 44 sch 3
 def “**The Commissioner for Railways**” om 1988 No. 52 s 44 sch 3

Contract relating to assistance

- s 3** amd 1988 No. 52 s 44 sch 3

Remedies of the Crown for breach by student of the contract

- s 5** amd 1974 No. 57 s 8(1) sch; 1988 No. 52 s 44 sch 3; 2000 No. 20 s 29
 sch 3

Bond with respect to condition of service entered into by student before this Act passed

- s 7** amd 1974 No. 57 s 8(1) sch

Attachment of debts etc. due to assisted student to satisfy judgment

- s 9** amd 1988 No. 52 s 44 sch 3; 2000 No. 20 s 29 sch 3

Legal proceedings

- s 11** amd 1988 No. 52 s 44 sch 3

Repeal of s. 14A of 39 Vic. No. 11

- s 12** om R1 (see RA ss 38, 40)

Construction of contracts

s 14 ins 1988 No. 52 s 44 sch 3